



# NEWS

## CHAPTER OFFICER NEWS

ISSUE 1, 2017

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

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# To All Chapter Officers

The summer riding months are racing by and I really do hope, that despite the remarkable weather extremes we've been all experiencing in Australia and New Zealand, there's been ample opportunity to get out there and ride, whether it's with your chapter, a group of friends or just by yourself.

One ride that didn't happen this past weekend due to the severe weather conditions here in Sydney was the annual gathering of your Regional Directors to discuss all things H.O.G.

I'd like to take this time to extend a big vote of thanks to the 5 RDs who put in an immense amount of work on your behalf, to ensure that H.O.G. chapters are not only kept up to date with future plans and activities, but also to pass on the feelings and thoughts of the chapters so that we can grow this amazing family of like-minded riders called H.O.G.

As most of you will know, the National Directors' Meeting was held in Homebush 19th – 20th November last year and now the RDs meeting has provided more ways that H.O.G. can listen to the voice of the members, so please make sure you are in contact with your RD as they are your first port of call and a wonderful support for the chapter.

# Regional Directors

WA/NT – Brian Neilsen

VIC/TAS/SA – David Poyser

Queensland – Gavin Hume

NSW/ACT – Marie Stavropoulos

New Zealand – Ian Keibell





# T'is the Season to be Rally

The early part of each year is rally season and the upcoming H.O.G. rallies, and National Events are below – I hope your chapter is actively planning to support some or all of these:

**Victoria State H.O.G. Rally – 10-13th March, Hepburn Springs**

**Queensland State H.O.G. Rally – 17th – 19th March, Mount Tambourine**

**New Zealand Iron Run – 17th – 18th March, Queenstown, New Zealand**

**Northern Territory State H.O.G. Rally – 29th – 30th April, Alice Springs**

And later in the year both SA and NSW/ACT will host H.O.G. rallies – more details in future issues of C.O.N. and of course these are covered in Rally Round Up in each HOG magazine. The national events in New Zealand and Australia (Iron Run and Harley days) are not national H.O.G. rallies per se, they are H-D events to celebrate motorcycling and H.O.G. is an integral and core part of these national events.

## Iron Run 2017 Queenstown NZ March 17th – 18th



Iron Run 2017 takes place in Queenstown in the South Island of New Zealand over Friday 17th March and Saturday 18th. Iron Run is a Festival of Motorcycling that really starts for the brave who ride to the South Island's most southern point, Bluff, on Thursday 16th. Riders who are there between 10am and 2pm will be met and given a special patch but those who arrive outside those hours only need to take a selfie with their bike showing the Bluff mileage post and you can pick up the patch on Friday.

Registration takes place on Friday at the Memorial Hall. Despite the best laid plans to have a "Harley Village" around the Ice Skating Rink, the local council wouldn't agree, so registration and merchandise will be at the Memorial Hall as it was in 2015.

Friday night is the big party and as its Saint Patrick's Day, expect some awesome fun with all things green! And the spectacular band, The Screamin Eagles, will be the headline act. These guys really do know how to make a party rock and those who attended Harley Days in Wollongong last year, will know just how damn good they are. They alone are more than ample reason to register for Iron Run at [www.ironrun.co.nz](http://www.ironrun.co.nz)



# Large Back Patches and Rockers

Many chapters have recently begun to wear large back patches and chapter rockers and the practice seems to have become more widely spread and accepted.

As we have said before, H.O.G. will not tell members what they can and can't wear, as we are all individuals, but we do say that you do this at your own risk. There has been negative reaction in the past from OMCs to large H.O.G. patches and upper chapter rockers. We ask all chapters to seek council from your Dealership and from the Committee before you decide to wear these items.

What is, however, very strongly frowned on indeed by OMCs is any form of lower patch or rocker beneath the large H.O.G. logo. We strongly urge all members to think very, very carefully indeed about doing this. Recent interactions between some H.O.G. chapters and 1% club members has reinforced their attitude to this practice. H.O.G. chapters are family oriented, social riding organisations where safety and fun are paramount.

## H.O.T. 2017



It's been a long time between drinks, so to speak, since the last H.O.T. held down under. Late 2014 to be exact, at Homebush in Sydney. Few were able to attend the Bali event the year later so we are pleased to advise that H.O.T. will be held this year, in Wollongong, just prior to Harley Days!

Many members in the past have commented that they would like to see H.O.T. attached to the national event so that they would not have to have two sets of expenses, two sets of holiday requests and two separate trips. Well, we have listened and acted.

In a later issue of C.O.N. we'll advise of how you can register for H.O.T. 2017

What a week this now promises to be and we hope that many of our members will make a really exciting and adventure filled festival of motorcycling that could look as good as:

<b>Sunday 22nd October</b>	For the hard core: Moto GP at Philip Island Vic
<b>Monday 23rd October</b>	Ride to Wollongong NSW
<b>Tuesday 24th October</b>	H.O.T. day 1 in Wollongong at the Novotel Hotel
<b>Wednesday 25th October</b>	H.O.T. day 2 in Wollongong at the Novotel Hotel
<b>Thursday 26th October</b>	Explore the local roads and sights
<b>Thursday 26th October</b>	National Directors Meeting – Novotel Hotel
<b>Friday 27th – Sunday 29th October</b>	HARLEY DAYS – Stuart Park, Wollongong.



# Harley Days Wollongong N.S.W. 27th – 29th October 2017



Harley Days will be bigger, brighter and better in 2017. Lots of great feedback from members has enabled us to fix many of the things that weren't as good as they could have been, including more vendors, more seating, more food options and more things to do.

And of course the Thunder Run. Already we have been working with the Police and the RMS to make sure that the same problems we encountered in 2016 are not repeated this year.

Harley Days is a 3 day festival of motorcycling and, like last year, Friday is committed exclusively to H.O.G.

We'll let you know when registrations and more details about Harley Days can be found, so make sure you plan for a fabulous week of motorcycling and include H.O.T. as well as perhaps the Moto GP before Harley Days 2017.

## Chapter Dealer Loyalty

As we all know, H.O.G. chapters only exist because each is sponsored by a Harley-Davidson Dealership, so we all owe our very existence to the fact that we are so fortunate to ride this amazing motorcycle called a Harley-Davidson and that we have such dedicated Dealerships willing to sponsor a chapter and allow it to exist.

This is a very special relationship and one that we can't take for granted. Our dealers are usually very passionate about their H.O.G. chapters and do a great deal for us. So of course, the loyalty and commitment has to be reciprocated.

It's expected that chapter members will, at a very minimum, give their dealership the chance to quote on vehicle purchases, services, parts and accessories and general merchandise. Of course it is a free market and members can shop where they want but having your dealer in the loop with the chance to provide a quote is the basics of the dealer/chapter relationship. Please support your sponsoring dealer.



# New H.O.G. Call Centre

Many of you might have noticed a different feel about HOG AU and HOGNZ.

Late last year we were informed that the call centre that handles all of your calls regarding H.O.G., was to close down. Needless to say, this was quite a shock and it took some considerable hard work to appoint a new organisation to be the face of H.O.G. We are delighted to now be working with McCorkell and Associates and their fabulous team of operators includes Tom Ingham whom many of you have been in touch with in the past.

## The HOG AU/NZ team



**Pav Naziry**



**Tom Ingham**



**Hugh Joyner**



**Damo McArthur**



# Auto Renewals

Our H.O.G. team are also there to help you with putting your H.O.G. membership on AUTO RENEWAL. Why risk the chance of not renewing your annual membership to H.O.G. thus meaning you cannot be a chapter member. Its easy, its simple and all you have to do is talk with the team, set up auto renewal and then keep your membership rockers growing year after year! This has to be the way to go!

**With so much happening in 2017 I do hope you're as excited as we are about simply enjoying the fantastic camaraderie of H.O.G. and doing what we all love to do – riding and having fun.**

Take care out there

**Gaz Luxmoore**  
Customer Experience Manager

## Regional Directors

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## H.O.G. Contact Information

- + All membership inquires
- + Membership renewals
- + Rally registration

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This newsletter is intended to provide information to chapter officers on H.O.G. programs, policies and other information of value to chapters. From time to time, H.O.G. will reprint information on programs and policies to help bring new officers up to date.